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**SEPTEMBER 18, 1943** 

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Milton Bulletin No. 16

PATA

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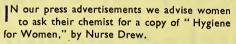
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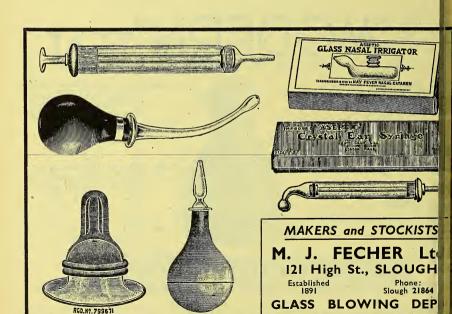
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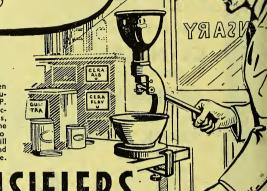
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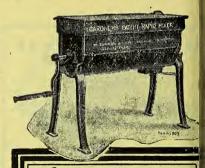


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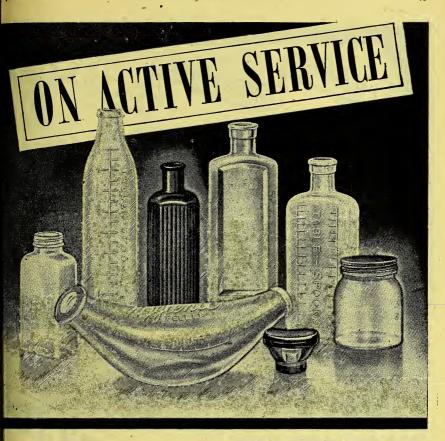


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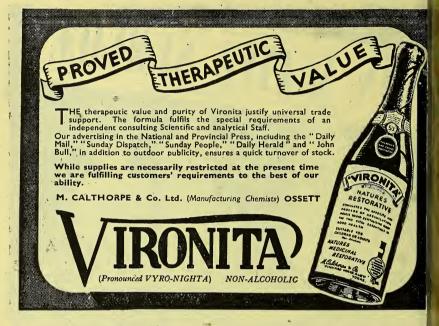
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We regret that owing to paper restrictions free distribution of "The Crisis in a Woman's Life" TO THE PUBLIC is no longer possible, and chemists who stock Menopax must therefore make a charge (3d. per copy) to those who ask for it. (This price is clearly marked on the cover.)

"The Crisis in a Woman's Life" (now in its 8th edition) has always been of the greatest possible value in promoting Menopax sales, and, we feel it is still the most informative book ever published dealing with the symptoms of the Menopause. When placing their monthly orders for Menopax with the sole distributors—Scott & Bowne, Ltd., Wexham Springs, Stoke Poges, Slough, Bucks, chemists should state number of booklets they require.

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for Women of Middle-age



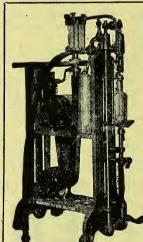
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MOTHAKS advertising will continue throughout the autumn and winter months in nearly a hundred newspapers and magazines.

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No purchase tax.

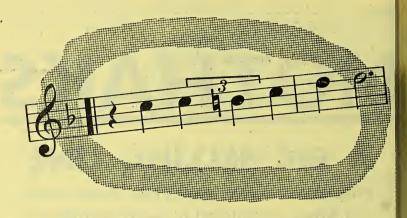
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### KORAY LIMITED, LONDON AND BLACKPOOL

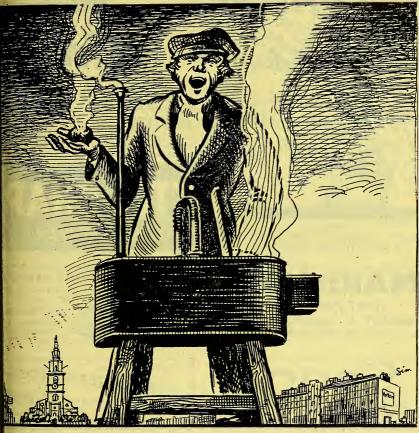
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### **NEWS OF THE WEEK**

Licences for Pest-control Undertakings.—Inder the Infestation Order, 1943, firms or ersons engaged in manufacturing, preparing, or servicing with substances or articles sed for the control of rodent, insect and ther pests will require a licence from the linister of Food after a date to be anounced by special Order. Requests for pression of application for licences can be added now to the Director of Infestation ontrol, Ministry of Food, University Colage, Gower Street, London, W.C.I.

Comprehensive Health Service.—At a neeting of the Association of Welsh nsurance Committees at Cardiff, on eptember 14, Mr. Ernest Brown (Minister f Health) said that when the Government roposals were published there would be he fullest opportunity for discussion by ll concerned. The principle of free choice of doctor would be maintained. Another indamental point would be the general ractitioner service based on the family a unit. Sir Ewen Maclean (a past-

president of the British Medical Association) urged the desirability of the proposed comprehensive medical service being built upon the framework of the National Health Insurance scheme.

Lancashire Traders and Shop Licensing.-There is a sharp division of opinion among Lancashire traders on the question of compulsory licensing of shops after the war. Blackburn Chamber of Trade, by a large membership, favours permanent licensing of all shops, with a proviso that Servicemen retailers should have preferential consideration. An equally representative Chamber at Burnley has voted in favour of no licensing of shops when the war ends. Accrington Chamber considers there should be a short period of restriction when peace is restored. One retailer considered it unfair for "doddering" shopkeepers to legislate for conditions which the younger generation would have to endure on returning to civil life. He felt no decision should be reached without consultation with traders now absent.

Reduced Price for Pearl Barley.—The Ministry of Food announces that the maximum selling price of pearl barley will be reduced from 9d. to 7½d. per lb. on October 17.

Religion in Business.—Liverpool Branch of the Catholic Pharmaceutical Guild joined with the local province of the Catenian Association recently to discuss "Christ in Business and Professional Life."

Pharmaceutical Society of 'Ireland.—The election of members to fill the seven vacancies on the Council of the Pharmaceutial Society of Ireland will take place on Monday, October 4, and voting papers (if there is a contest) must be returned before 11 a.m. on that date. The annual meeting of the Society will be held on Monday, October 11, at 8.30 p.m.

Dublin a "City of Chemists' Shops."—Mr. Ruddick Millar, a Belfast writer, recently gave, in a Dublin evening newspaper, his impressions of a visit to Eire. He stated: "It is three years since I was last in Dublin and I find in the meantime it has become a city of cyclists and chemists' shops. . . These chemists' shops are even more numerous in suburban places like Dun Laoghaire, where almost every third store deals in drugs. At least, I thought that until I discovered the real trade to be cosmetics—tons of them."

Irish Chemists' Golf.—The Irish Chemists' Golfing Society held a successful outing at the Lucan Golf Club, co. Dublin, on September 8, when a competition was held for prizes presented by Irish Pharmaceuticals, The winner of the eighteen-holes. strokes competition was Mr. S. J. Savage (9), 75, the runner-up being Mr. P. Mc-Auliffe (12), 78. The award for the best net first nine holes went to Mr. T. J. Lynch (5),  $38\frac{1}{2}$ , and for the best net second nine holes to Mr. P. H. Fahey (14), 35. Mr. J. F. O'Hara (captain) presided at a supper held subsequently at the Lucan Spa Hotel, at which those present included Messrs. T. P. Toher, Sligo (president, Golfing Union of Ireland), S. McAuley (managing director, Irish Pharmaceuticals, Ltd.), and P. C Cahill (a director of the company), and Dr. George Sheehan (president, Lucan Golf Club). A vote of thanks to the donors of prizes was proposed by Mr. McAuliffe, MR. McAuley responding. Thanks to the Club for the use of the course was moved by Mr. M. Leonard; Dr. Sheehan replied. The Society will hold its final outing of the season at Elm Park Golf Club on September 29, when the competition will be for prizes

presented by Kodak, Ltd., and Northan Warren (I.F.S.), Ltd.

No Pharmacists in Eire Senate.—The two pharmacist candidates for election to the Eire Senate (Messrs. P. C. Cahill and F Loughman) were unsuccessful. Mr. Cahil received no first-preference votes. Mr Loughman received two only, and insufficient votes in subsequent counts to reach the quota of 8,032.

Health Essay Competition.—A series of prizes for the best essay on an Inter-Allied charter of health has been offered by the Anglo-Czechoslovak Founders' Committee The competition is open to members of the medical profession, biologists, research workers in health services, nurses and medical auxiliaries. Particulars may be obtained from Dr. Jan Swoboda, Health Charter Study Group, c/o Langdale House London Road, Harrow-on-the-Hill.

Plymouth Pharmaceutical Employees.—Mr. G. Maurice Hann (secretary, Nationa Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants Warehousemen and Clerks) gave an addres to the Plymouth Branch of the Associatio of Pharmaceutical Employees (an affiliate body) at a meeting held on August 24 He urged employee pharmacists to organis and unite.

Natural Menthol Prices Controlled .- Th Board of Trade, at the request of th Ministry of Supply and in consultatio with the Central Price Regulation Com mittee, has made an Order fixing th maximum prices to be charged by importers brokers and wholesalers of natural mentho The maximum price to be charged b importers and brokers is 75s. per lb. Th maximum price to be charged by whole salers is 95s. per lb. If, however, a whole saler can prove that at all times since March 3, 1939, he had supplied menthol t retail traders and can prove also that a the date of the Order coming into operatio he had in his possession stocks for which h had paid more than 75s. per lb., and that he had notified the Central Price Regulatio Committee of the amount of such stock his maximum price of 95s. per lb. may b increased in respect of these stocks, by the difference between 75s. per lb. and th price he actually paid, so long as this price does not exceed 125s. per lb. The Orde which is to be known as the Natura Menthol (Maximum Prices) Order (S. I & O., 1943, No. 1285), comes into operatio on September 20, and is obtainable throug H.M. Stationery Office, price one penny.

### **EMPIRE AND FOREIGN NEWS**

German "No-Vitamins" Cures.—A Gerlan Press agency announcement states at doctors have discovered that a number blood diseases can be cured by a systemtic denial of vitamins to the patient.

Prescription not Enough in Germany.—
oncentrated diphtheria serums are scarce
I Germany, and chemists have been inrmed that they must not sell them except
nder special permit. A doctor's prescripon is not sufficient. Less-concentrated
rrums are plentiful and the Government has
lvised doctors and chemists to administer
hore of these.

Canadian Penicillin Production.—The anadian correspondent of "The Times" ports that the Dominion Government as approved expenditure on establishing, a Montreal and Toronto, plants for the roduction of penicillin. The sum voted ill cover establishment costs and the rovision of the first 26,000 million units equired by the Canadian armed forces.

Mobile Pharmacy for German Parachutss.—The Transocean Agency announces hat German parachute troops are being quipped with a special pharmacy which is ropped by parachute. The pharmacy is n wheels and can be taken wherever the roops go. Each unit is accompanied by a octor and three assistants, and contains ll\*necessary supplies, including apparatus or water testing:

Veterinary Advertising Controlled in ustralia.—By a Commonwealth Government Order issued recently, advertisements irectly or indirectly relating to any stock ood, stock lick, or stock remedy are limited of the name of the manufacturer or disributor; a name or trade name and short itle indicating the use or purpose; the orice; a statement specifying the number of animals which may be treated or fed with the stock food, stock lick or stock remedy during a specified period for a pecified cost or with a specified quantity; and any other matter required by law.

Status of Australian War Pharmacopœia.

When the Australian War Pharmacopœia was issued, medical practitioners were urged to prescribe the formulas contained it in preference to others, in order to conserve those drugs, etc., in short supply. Legally, however, precedence could not be given over the British Pharmacopœia, the British Pharmaceutical Codex and Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary, because the formulas, specifications, and tests in

these books are legal standards in the various States. An amendment has been issued to the Control of Medical Equipment Order which removes this obstacle, and makes the A.W.P. the official standard throughout the Commonwealth for any formulas included in it.

Drug Shortage in France.—The Paris newspaper, "Le Journal," reports chemists' complaints about deteriorating supplies of medicines. In certain categories there is a complete lack. Among these are soft and liquid paraffins, lanolin, castor oil, bismuth, quinine, sodium and potassium salts, iodides, caffeine, tincture of iodine, and cinchona. Quantities of sugar and alcohol or syrups obtainable are "ridiculously small," surgical spirits are not allowed to be sold without medical prescription, and absorbent cotton-wool has been replaced by cellulose wool or specially-made substitute, the quota being extremely small. The lengths and widths of gauze bandages have been reduced. Quotas of various medicines have been fixed according to chemists' pre-war turnover.

Australian Social Security Proposals.—Discussions have taken place in Australia between representatives of pharmacy and the Minister for Social Services and Health on the position of pharmacists in relation to any scheme of social security which envisaged the inclusion of pharmaceutical benefits. General agreement has been expressed among pharmacists that for the satisfactory working of a pharmaceutical service the Government should be willing to grant:—

1. A tariff system of payment for prescriptions.

2. Free choice of pharmacist by participants in the scheme.

3. Representation of pharmacists in the administration in so far as it touches their interests.

4. The right to continue private practice.

At the interview the Ministers revealed the scope of what was contemplated, but spoke in terms of arriving at a flat rate per prescription. The pharmacists press strongly that even an apparently high flat rate per 'prescription could involve some contractors in loss, due to variations in prescribing, and that only a scientific method of pricing, the principle of which could be applied to all prescriptions, would ensure that everyone dispensing under the scheme received his just dues.

### TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

### Medical Planning

Although only four weeks had elapsed since you commented on the attitude of the British Medical Association (so far as it was known) to the proposals of the Ministry of Health for "a comprehensive health service," the question has by no means "gone stale," and its importance warrants the space allotted to it on pp. 264 and 267. The annual representative meeting of the Association is announced for September 21-23: pharmacists will be wise to read reports of it with sympathetic but critical attention. The remarks of Dr. G. C. Anderson, summarised in your last week's issue, do not appear to take us further than the pamphlet issued under the auspices of the Association in 1938; having regard to his official position, it was not to be expected that he would put forward any original suggestions. His discussion of the "Beveridge plan" is judicious, and was probably evoked by his observation of certain tendencies or reactions. The suggestion that the "should regard the present period in its history, not as one of crisis and revolution, but as one of opportunity and evolution" may be amplified. It takes us down to fundamentals, and is as true of individual patients as it is of the doctors and chemists who look after their health. While there may be more than one crisis in the medical history of any human being, a geological period, an æon, would be required to effect a revolution in the structure and physiology of the human body. So, then, let us be clear that neither we nor our medical associates have any leaning to revolutionary ideas and methods; they belong to adolescence, the "space of life" between boyhood and manhood described in Keats's memorable preface to "Endymion." to the time to be allotted to experimenting with health centres before allowing a definite scheme to crystallise, a period of two years has, I believe, been suggested. In any case, so important a feature should not be thrust on the country hastily.

### Proper Names in Chemistry

Your question "What is Schweitzer's reagent?" (p. 272) set me thinking. In any modern book of reference one finds dozens of such names attached to mixtures of chemicals. One example will suffice. Opening National Formulary VII at the beginning of the section devoted to clinical laboratory reagents and preparations, I find on the first four pages the following proper names

among the headings: Rivalta, Tsuchiya Exton, Folin, Kingsbury, Clark, Esbact Gram, Van Slyke, Cullen, Van den Bergt Ehrlich, Collip, Kramer-Tisdall. The sectio referred to comprises sixty-two pages. Ha not this type of proprietary claim bee overdone? If it was a question of advertis ing to the general public, one could under stand it; but in this case we are dealin with scientific procedure. With such multiplicity of persons to be thus commen orated, the common talk of the value of team-work in research sounds a trifle iron cal. Moreover, there is a suspicion of lazines in falling back on a personal label as th accepted means of describing, say, a mixtur of acetic acid and distilled water in specifie proportions. We shall perhaps be told that each reagent is only one element in it author's method. Quite; but scientifi workers prefer, I trust and believe, to ca things by their proper names. Someon with the requisite leisure and influence might take this question in hand.

### Shakespeare's Health

To ask whether Shakespeare suffere from a deficiency of vitamin C (p. 269) i in the words of Sir Thomas Browne, t inquire too curiously. In the limited space left I must confine myself to outlines. Th only Shakespeare with whom we have an concern is Shakespeare the poet: extraneou matters are irrelevant. Browning put similar conclusion, in his robust way, i the last lines of "House." Like other poet he was simplifying and was expressing single mood; as Swinburne indicated, w know too little of Shakespeare as a man t go all the way with Browning. Resplender sanity of intellect may, of course, be par nered by some physical defect. But eve if experts agree that Shakespeare's hand writing shows signs of writer's cramp—an I have never heard that they do—it does no follow that avitaminosis was the caus Two cases of apparently chronic shakines in calligraphy come to my recollection. one, the patient lived an active life to th age of eighty or thereabouts; in the othe robust health is a sufficient summary. It perhaps worth asking whether the case-book of John Hall, Shakespeare's son-in-lav mentioned in your issue of March 21; 1939 can throw any light on the matter of th poet's health by implication. A new stud of them by a sufficiently ingenious con mentator might result in the evolution of new theory. Xrayser

### **LEGAL REPORTS**

Unlabelled Poisons.—At Ealing, London, r., recently, Horace Thomas was fined £15 r selling bottles of disinfectant without bels at a shop in Teignmouth Parade, erivale, which was not registered for the lling of poisons.—At the same Court on a same date, Jarvis Stores, Ltd., Yiewsley, ere fined £4 for selling unlabelled bottles ammonia at premises in Northfield Road, vest Ealing, which were not registered for a sale of poisons. At Brentford, recently, are company was fined £1 on each of three mmonses for similar offences at other tanches.

Thefts of Drugs and Chemicals.—At oughborough, on September 6, Maude G. S. rowne, Stretton Hall Hospital, Oadby, was nt. to prison for six months for stealing blets of atropine, morphine and heroin, he property of Loughborough General ospital. According to a medical report reendant was a drug addict.—At Clerkenell Police Court, London, recently, Frederk A. Ford was bound over on charges of ealing quantities of liquid paraffin, sodium orate, and other items, valued at £1 7s. 3d., he property of his employers, Baird & atlock, Ltd., St. Cross Street, London, C. I.

No Supervision.—At Liverpool, on September 8, H. P. Rees, Ltd., chemists, were unmoned for having sold tablets and a bugh mixture, each containing a poison, om a branch shop at 19 Cherry Avenue, iverpool, without the sales having been upervised by a pharmacist. They were lso summoned for supplying the cough inxture in a bottle which was not labelled with the name and address of the seller. For defendants it was explained that the harmacist attached to this shop was a han of great experience. Owing to his age, e found some difficulty in putting in time the shop. Fines amounting to £8 were nposed.

Charges of Receiving.—At West Ham olice Court, London, on September 7, harges of receiving stolen goods were rought against Norman Marcus, Hyman Iarcus and Philip Marcus, who, it was lleged, were concerned in receiving between uly 13 and August 16, 450 dozen bottles f Brylcreem, valued at £317 11s. 9d. imon Appleboom, carrying on business as Appleton, hairdresser, was charged with eceiving sixty dozen bottles, valued at 45, and Jack Philips, hairdresser, was imilarly charged in respect of eighty-four

dozen bottles, valued at £63, and Alfred Astley, hairdresser, was charged with receiving 264 dozen bottles, valued at £198. It was stated by the prosecution that the lorry driver for the County Perfumery Co., Ltd., had been ordered to take a load of 450 dozen bottles of Brylcreem to a firm of druggists' sundriesmen, but the load did not arrive. Some weeks later the lorry driver surrendered to the police, was charged with selling the Brylcreem and sentenced. The present prosecutions arose out of that case. The proceedings were adjourned until September 18.

### **COMPANY NEWS**

SURE DEATH PEST EXTERMINATORS, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. Manufacturers of and dealers in insecticides, vermicides, etc. Anna Atlas, director. R.O.: 10 Essex Street, London, W.C.2.

Garth Chemists, Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Wholesale and retail chemists, chemists' sundriesmen, etc. William F. Jackson, M.P.S., and Mrs. Clara Collins, directors. R.O.: 102 Marsh Road, Pinner.

Thomas Swales (Leeds), Ltd. (P.C.).—Capital £5,000. To acquire the business of chemists carried on in Leeds as "Thomas Swales." Frederick H. Swales, director. Solicitors: Cranswick Crawford & Owen, 28 East Parade, Leeds.

SAM, LOEWENSTEIN, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £3,500. Dealers in and manufacturers of fancy goods, plastics, chemical, cosmetic and other preparations, cork, etc., Directors to be appointed. R.O.: 9 West Heath Close, Hampstead, London, N.W.3.

BROADWAY SURGICAL BUREAU, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £500. To acquire the business carried on by Alfred S. Northcott as the "Broadway Surgical Bureau." Harry Green, director. R.O.: I Chichester Court, 5 Crawford Street, London, W.I.

ALFRED COX (SURGICAL), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £4,000. To acquire the business of surgical instrument makers carried on at 108 Whitechapel Road, London, as "Krohne & Sesemann." C. F. and R. E. Sesemann, directors. R.O.: 108 Whitechapel Road, London, E.I.

CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS' DISTRIBUTORS' CORPORATION, LTD.—(P.C.) Capital £1,000. Manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals, drugs, disinfectants, fertilisers, proprietary articles, etc. Sydney Leader and Duncan Mackinnon, directors. R.O.: Friday House, Cheapside, London, E.C.4.

### TRADE NOTES

Slippery Elm Food.—Manufactured in England by Brook, Parker & Co., Ltd., Bradford, Forbes' slippery elm food for babies and invalids is available in three sizes at terms listed elsewhere in this issue.

Approved Prices.—The Central Price Regulation Committee has approved the prices for surgical dressings set out in the price list dated September 13 of the Surgical Dressings Manufacturers' Association.

Home Dyes.—Osogood packeted dyes for home use are available in nineteen shades and suitable for all fabrics. The dyes are obtainable from Osogood, Ltd., North House, North John Street, Liverpool, 2. Delivery is from available supplies.

Price Increase.—The Yestamin Co. (The English Grains Co., Ltd.), Shobnall Road, Burton-on-Trent, announce that, owing to greatly increased costs of raw materials and production costs, they have been compelled to increase the price of Yestamin tablets and powder. The new prices came into effect on September 13. Details from the makers.

Bronze Check Valves.—Standardised controllable and non-controllable automatic non-return check valves are the subject of literature issued recently by Hopkinsons, Ltd., Huddersfield. The standard horizontal valve with screw connexions, either non-controllable or provided with a hand wheel to control the action, is made in eight standard sizes, ranging from ½-in. bore to 3-in. bore. The latter, unlike the other seven sizes, has a studded cover. The range of horizontal check valves is also made with flanged connexions, controllable or non-controllable.

Organic Arsenicals.—Pharmaceutical Specialities (May & Baker), Ltd., Dagenham, announce the introduction of a new preparation of 3-amino-4-hydroxyphenylarsine oxide or arsphenoxide, a trivalent arsenical that is being used increasingly in the treatment of syphilis and other infections in which neoarsphenamine is indicated. Neo-Halarsine arsphenoxide tartrate is available in ampoules containing 0.09, 0.06 or 0.045 gm. The preparation is a development of Halarsol, the first preparation of arsphenoxide to be made available commercially, and issued as long ago as 1930 for the treatment of yaws. The makers describe the active material as a pure crystalline substance, solutions of which can be allowed to stand for at least eight hours without discoloration or increase in toxicity.

### **Business Changes**

Mr. Peter Slattery, M.P.S.I., 162 Parnell Street, Dublin, has acquired the pharmacy of Mr. Thomas Keogh, M.P.S.I., 5 Fairview Strand, Dublin.

LONDON PHARMACEUTICAL LABORATORIES, LTD., shaving-cream manufacturers and suppliers of teats and valves, have altered their address from 37 Bedford Square, London, W.C.I, to 24 Thornsett Road, S.W.18 [Corrected note].

### **Proprietary Articles Trade Association**

Alterations to Protected List.—J. Grossmith & Son, Ltd., Old Cottage lavender toilet soap, and Golden Still Cologne toilet soap, 8\frac{1}{2}d. tablet, 5s. 10\frac{1}{2}d. doz., tax 1s. 11\frac{1}{2}d. per doz., inclusive retail price, 10\frac{1}{2}d.

### **INQUESTS**

AT Burnley, on September 9, a verdict of accidental death was recorded at an inquest on Lucilla P. Taylor, who died through drinking ammonia.

At Liverpool, on September 7, the Coroner recorded a "suicide" verdict in the case of Elsie M. Gawthorne, whose death was due to an overdose of aspirin.

Death by misadventure by taking an overdose of a chloral-bromide mixture was the verdict recorded at Teignmouth, recently, on Frederick J. Patterson.

At St. Pancras, London, N., recently, an inquiry was held into the circumstances attending the death of Ethel Haines. According to the medical evidence, death was due to aspirin poisoning.

A verdict of "death by misadventure" was recorded at a Birmingham inquest recently on Francis Cecil Sheppard (aged thirteen), Edgbaston, who died after he had swallowed some 40 or 50 phenobarbitone tablets during the afternoon of the previous day. The Deputy Coroner said the boy might have taken the tablets to cure a headache or out of pure mischief.

A verdict of "misadventure" was returned at the resumed inquest at Croydon, recently, on Mrs. Dora Johns, Norbury. Dr. Roche Lynch (Home Office analyst) said he had found strychnine in some of the organs of the deceased. There was also strychnine in a full bottle of medicine found at Mrs. Johns' house and in the few drops of liquid which were left in the empty one. The jury returned a verdict that Mrs. Johns died from an overdose of medicine and that death occurred from misadventure,

### A SERGEANT-DISPENSER ON PHARMACY

The Editor has received a copy of a letter sent to Mr. H. Steinman, M.P.S., Manchester, by Sergeant L. Simons, R.A.M.C. The letter contains many items that are of interest and concern to pharmacists at home, and some passages from it are reproduced below:—

DEAR MR. STEINMAN, Received your very welcome letter this evening. . . . I must confess it made me rather envioùs, as it would be very nice to travel on a train in

England once more.

Your little lecture was very interesting, and somewhat of a climax to my evening, as I and my brother pharmacists had been arguing amongst ourselves on the selfsame subject. I am afraid the prospects of commissioned rank during this war are very small, but nevertheless I am sure our services are amply appreciated out here. question of commissioned rank, however, is ikely to play a very minor rôle in the future of pharmacy, and it is in civilian work that the bettering of our status must take place. Far too many of us are concerned more with ncreasing our banking credits than with our own profession. We have come to rely more on the manufacturing chemist than on our own abilities. If every pharmacist was capable of preparing his own medicaments from the crude or individual drugs, he would have no need to rely on the humiliating sale of cosmetics, and the jumbled assortment of . goods that make his pharmacy look like a pazaar. He carries stocks of these articles, probably running into hundreds of pounds, which, because it has to be replaced, is lead stock. If he was to clear all this out, and buy equipment with the proceeds, he would be undergoing no extra expense, and would soon be more than amply repaid. The finest drugs would be at his disposal, and he would be engaged in work in which ne was so well trained.

### Problem of Overcrowding

But I suppose this is only one small part of the problem. The main one, I think, is the overflooding of the profession. There are too many of us, and that is directly due to the Society. They failed to look into the future, and now we are almost as numerous as grocers. Yet what opportunities are awaiting us! Medical science is leaping forward at an inspiring rate, and leaving disrupted pharmacy at the post. I have become convinced that true pharmacy will never be practised except in the hospital. I am unable to reconcile myself to any other

view. The harm has been done now, and nothing we can do will change the position. Yet I should like to see every pharmacist doing the work he was meant to do. Somewhere we took the wrong road, and the way back is no more.

If I continue in this vein I shall become morbid, so I will change the subject. As you say, I have a story to tell when I get back home. Not one of hazardous incident, I admit, but, instead, of changing scene and absorbing interest. Of other lands and climates, and of unusual situations. But writing has its limitations, and verbal sounds have a descriptiveness all their own. I will let it wait until we meet again in the country of countries—England. We are settled at last, and getting down to some real work. Interest never flags, and as a result the days go by with the speed of an express train.—Yours, L. S.

### SERUM THERAPY IN BURN SHOCK

Presman, in the "Journal of the American Medical Association" (122. 14. 924) criticises as inadequate the usual serum or plasma therapy of acute extensive burns. He urges that serum or plasma therapy should be given with the object of restoring a normal blood volume and not from considerations of the units of fluid administered. His observations indicated the need for much larger doses of serum or plasma than usually given. By far the greater part of the fluid should be administered during the first twenty-four hours. He suggests in adults the immediate administration of 50 c.c. of serum or 60 c.c. of plasma for every per cent. of body surface burned, plus 20 to 30 c.c. for every per cent. during the first twenty four bourse. the first twenty-four hours and another 20 to 30 c.c. in the first seventy-two hours following the burn (total administration at least 100 to 110 c.c. for each per cent. of body burn). Crystalloid fluids should not be given during the first twenty-four hours, and fluids and a high protein diet by mouth should begin as soon as possible. From analyses of blister fluid and of blood plasma he finds that the former has a concentration of proteins equivalent to 70 to 80 per cent. of the plasma proteins. The albumin content of blister fluid was fairly constant, but the globulin content showed decided variations independent of the albumin or globulin values of the blood and of the albumin values of the blister fluid.

### DOSAGE OF VITAMIN PREPARATIONS

THE Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association has issued a report in which it states that at various times it has given consideration to excessive and indiscriminate use of vitamin preparations by the general public. There has been no concern over any danger in such usage in doses which the Council would consider for therapeutic recommendation, but it is apparent that large numbers of people have been using pharmaceutical preparations of vitamins far in excess of what would be expected to be of real benefit. This first became apparent in considering the large dosages recommended for vitamin A and D preparations when these vitamins became available at a relatively low cost.

#### Statement of Policy

This prompted the Council to restrict acceptance of vitamin A and D preparations recommending high dosages of vitamins A and D to preparations advertised only to the physician, and the following statement of policy was adopted:—

Vitamin A and D preparations are accepted with dosages in excess of 10,000 units of vitamin A or 1,000 units of vitamin D if the products are advertised only to the physician and the dosage statement indicates that the dose prescribed provides more than a prophylactic dose of the vitamin.

The Council decided that the principle involved should be applied uniformly to all vitamin preparations and accordingly adopted the following recommendation:—

That acceptable vitamin preparations which supply in each unit (tablet, capsule, etc.) or in the recommended daily intake more than three times the minimum daily requirements set forth in regulations under Sec. 403 (j) of the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act will be accepted if they are advertised only to the physician.

For the past few years there has been uncertainty about the type of dosage statement that would meet statutory requirements for vitamin preparations, particularly those which provided a relatively high dosage. The Council was advised that the statement "Caution: For therapeutic use only, to be used by or on the prescription of a physician" for a thiamine preparation which supplied doses larger than 3 mgm. daily would meet the requirements of that Act and therefore such a statement has been required. Further consideration has been given to this problem, particularly because use of the term "caution" had a connotation which did not seem desirable for vitamin preparations. The Council has

received assurance that this caution statement will no longer be required and that the following type of statement is acceptable for thiamine preparations which supply more than 3 mgm. per tablet:—

Dose: One tablet daily, or as prescribed by the physician. This dosage is in excess of the quantity needed for prevention of thiamine deficiency.

#### Labelling Suggestions

The Council voted that this type of dosage statement should be made applicable to vitamin preparations which supply in each unit (tablet, capsule, etc.) or in the recommended daily intake more than 12,000 units of vitamin A, 1,200 units of vitamin D, 90 mgm. of vitamin C, 3 mgm. of thiamine hydrochloride, 6 mgm. of riboflavine or 30 mgm. of nicotinic acid. The Council has prepared suggested label statements to carry the recommendations into effect.

### **COMING EVENTS**

### Sunday, September 19

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association. Ramble. Bollington to Romiley via Bowstones Farm (about twelve miles). Meet London Road Station, 9.30 a.m. Book single to Bollington. Carry lunch and tea.

#### Monday, September 27

West Ham and Eastern District Association of Pharmacists, Church Institute, 27 Romford Road, Stratford, at 7.45 p.m. Members' night.

#### Saturday, October 2

Association of Scientific Workers (London Area Committee), Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.2, at 2.30 p.m. (till 7 p.m.). Conference on "Problems of Freed Europe—The Challenge to Medical Sciences."

Salvage.—Save envelopes and use them again and again (except for communications for posting overseas). Paper bags, too, can be used over and over again. Many firms have salvage stewards in every branch of their organisation who are responsible, among other things, for seeing that used packing material is sent back to their head office. There the salvage department examines all used packing materials to see what is suitable for re-use and what must be salvaged.

### **PERSONALITIES**

Mr. T. B. CHADWICK, M.P.S., Manchester (a member of the publishing staff of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST), has been promoted Captain in the Home Guard.

LIEUTENANT P. CONSTABLE, R.N., son of Mr. P. S. Constable, M.P.S. (a representative of C. R. Harker, Stagg & Morgan, Ltd.), has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for daring on naval convoy scort work.

### **BIRTHS**

O'Sullivan.—Recently, the wife of T. Brendan O'Sullivan, M.P.S.I., 67 Parnell treet, Dublin, of a daughter.

GEDDES.—At Dennistoun Nursing Home, lasgow, on September 4, Babs, the wife John Murray Geddes, M.P.S., 18 Newton treet, Glasgow, C.2, of a son.

LIND.—At Bellshill Hospital, on August o, Rosabel, the wife of Robert Lind, 3.Sc., Ph.C., 29 Beechwood Gardens, Jossend, Bellshill, Lanarks, of a son.

STORRAR.—At 10 Royal Terrace, Edinurgh, on September 5, Marian, the wife f Sergeant James Walt Storrar, M.P.S., A.M.C., Croydon, Carnwath, Lanarks, of daughter (Elizabeth Margaret).

### MARRIAGES

THOMSON—RAMSAY.—At Glasgow, reently, William Hector White Thomson, I.P.S., Gallowgate Street, Largs, Ayrshire, by Elizabeth Ramsay, Bishopbriggs, nr. lasgow.

Golden Wedding.—McLaren.—Tait.—At mperial Hotel, Edinburgh, on September 1893, Duncan McLaren, M.P.S., to ary Gloag Tait. Present address: 20 enderson Row, Edinburgh.

### **DEATHS**

HEMINGWAY.—Recently, Mr. George arrett Hemingway, M.P.S., 2 Barnfield venue, Romiley, Cheshire, aged seventy. rior to his retirement in 1934, Mr. Hemingay had been in business at Prescot for a rge number of years.

McEwan.—Recently, Mr. Donald cEwan, M.P.S., 9 Elliot Place, Edinburgh, ed seventy-eight.

MACRAE.—Recently, Mr. Roderick acrae, M.P.S., 34 Dalston Lane, London, 8, aged sixty-two.

MARTIN.—At the Women's Hospital, hitehouse Loan, Edinburgh, on September

5, Mrs. Margaret Frazer Thomson or Martin, M.P.S. Mrs. Martin qualified in 1921.

Noble.—At Thorn Villa, Bridge of Allan, on September 9, John Asher Noble, M.P.S. Mr. Noble qualified in 1921.

Selby.—On September 9, Mr. Charles Selby, 74 Harpenden Road, Wanstead Park, London, E.12, aged eighty. Mr. Selby had been engaged in the Mincing Lane trade for over sixty years, from his boyhood until the early months of this year. He commenced his career with Donald Gray & Sons, produce brokers. On the winding-up of that business, he accompanied Mr. W. A. Gray to the firm of Bowyer & Bartlett, and later they both transferred to that of Slann & Davies. On the death of Mr. W. A. Gray, Mr. Selby took charge of the isinglass and crude drug department, until his retirement this year through ill-health. He had a good general knowledge of drugs, essential oils, Eastern and Chinese produce, and, through his long connexions, was one of the most widely known men in this area of the City.

Wilson.—Recently, Mr. George Waite Wilson, M.P.S., 137 Lewisham High Road, London, S.E.14, aged seventy-eight.

### RECENT WILLS

Mr. Thomas Hale, M.P.S., 252 Stockingstone Road, Luton, who died on May 2, left £16,857, with net personalty £5,162.

Mr. ALEXANDER GORDON BEATTIE, 15 Westburn Drive, Aberdeen, chemist, who died on April 23, left personal estate in Great Britain valued at £3,876.

Mr. WILLIAM ARTHUR HARRISON NAYLOR, M.P.S., F.I.C., 8 Grove Street, Beeston, Notts, formerly of Bromley, Kent, late a director of Hearon, Squire & Francis, Ltd., who died on May 30, left £22,954, with net personalty £21,631.

MR. WILLIAM MASKEW, Ph.C., 57 St. Andrew Street, Hertford, lately in business as an antique dealer under the style of "Quinneys," a member of the Hertford Borough Council for twenty-three years, who died on April 21, intestate, left £2,114, with net personalty £1,265.

MR. CHARLES JOHN SAMUEL THOMPSON, M.B.E., Ph.D., Old Place, Cuddington, Bucks, formerly curator of the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, London, Honorary Curator of the Historical Collection of the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, who died on July 14, left £1,801, with net personalty £519.

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### TRADE MARKS

(From "The Trade Marks Journal," September 1)

"LA JOCONDE"; for perfumery, non-medicate Fragrance, Ltd., 316 Vauxhall Bridge Road London, S.W.1. 622,953.

"Haycol"; for hair-waving sachets (3). B
A. W. Hayes, Ltd., 276 Moston Land
Manchester, 10. 623,858.

STUART HIRST, LTD. Survey House, 15 Bond St., Leeds 1

"WALVET"; for laundry and cleaning prepart tions and for soaps (3). By Merbart Products, Ltd., Coventry House, Prestwood Great Missenden, Bucks. 624,411.

"Andomia"; for analgesic and hypnot preparations (5). By G. W. Taylor, a Duncombe Street, Walkley, Sheffield 622,765.

"OPTAZOME"; for pharmaceutical preparation for the eyes (5). By John Richardson & C (Leicester), Ltd., 62 Evington Valley Road Leicester. 622,813.

"Treetop"; for disinfectants (5). By De Silkwear Protection, Ltd., Forfar Work Spencer Road, Belper, Derbyshire. 623,30

"Frutona"; for fruit-flavoured pharmacetical preparations (5). By The Dubart Perfumery Co., Ltd., Goldstone Laboratorie Hove Park Villas, Hove, Sussex. B623,33.

"Moor's HEAD BRAND" under device of Moor head; for disinfectants (5). By Chromo Ltd., Moorlands Hall, Birkenshaw, n

Bradford. 623,396.
"TIMOSAN"; for veterinary preparations (5
By J. Atkinson, Willow Bank, Moor Enc
Stalmine, nr. Fleetwood, Lancs. 623,406.

CORRECTION.—In the article "Vitamir of the Pharmacopæia" (C. & D., Sei tember 11, p. 272), riboflavine should hav been referred to as vitamin B, and not a described.

### CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

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fficial organ of The Pharmaceutical Society of eland, The Pharmaceutical Society of Northern eland, The Chemists' and Druggists' Society of eland and of other Chemists' Societies in the Empire

DL. CXL

**SEPTEMBER 18, 1943** 

NO. 3319

he fact that goods made of raw materials short supply owing to war conditions are luertised in this paper or described in its litorial columns should not be taken as an dication that they are necessarily available rexport.

### Evidence Before a Statutory Committee

NLY since the coming into force of the narmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, have emists had experience of the powers of professional disciplinary body. Consecently matters affecting similar controlling ganisations have now particular interest r members of the Pharmaceutical Society. case in point is a recent decision in the ouse of Lords, when the General Medical uncil appealed against a decision of the ourt of Appeal. The matter arose originy when, following divorce proceedings in hich a medical practitioner was cited as e co-respondent, the G.M.C. ordered the ctor's name to be erased from the edical Register. The doctor appealed to e King's Bench Division, which refused interfere, but the Court of Appeal overled the court below, Lord Justice acKinnon holding that "due inquiry" volved a full and fair consideration of any idence that the accused desired to offer, d, if he tendered them, hearing his witsses. The House of Lords upheld the cision of the Court of Appeal and disssed the appeal of the G.M.C.

In the course of his judgment the Lord ancellor said that before the Council the doctor's solicitor submitted that he should be allowed to call certain evidence which was not before the Divorce Court, with a view to challenging the correctness of the Judge's conclusions on the issue of adultery. The whole question turned on Section 29 of the Medical Act, 1858.

### A Significant Distinction

That section drew a significant distinction between a case in which the impeached practitioner had been convicted of felony or misdemeanour, and a case in which the allegation of infamous conduct was not connected with a criminal conviction. In the former case the decision of the Council was properly based on the fact of the conviction, and the practitioner could not go behind it and endeavour to show that he was innocent of the charge and should have been acquitted. In the latter case the decision of the Council, if adverse to the practitioner, must be arrived at "after due inquiry," and that, of course, meant after due inquiry by the Council. The question therefore was whether the Council in the present case could be regarded as having reached their adverse decision "after due inquiry" when they had refused to hear evidence tendered by the practitioner with a view to showing that he had not been guilty of the infamous conduct alleged and that the finding of the Divorce Court against him as co-respondent was wrong. It was worth observing that this problem did not arise only in connexion with conclusions reached in the Divorce Court. A judgment for the plaintiff in an action for seduction, a bastardy order made by a bench of magistrates-those, and many other, instances of adverse conclusions reached in a Court of law might conceivably in certain circumstances lead to a charge against a medical man of infamous conduct in a professional respect. It seemed obvious, in those other instances, that while the Council might well treat the conclusion reached in the Courts as prima facie proof of the matter alleged, they must, when making "due inquiry," permit the doctor to challenge the correctness of the conclusion and to call evidence in support of his contention.

#### The Council's Responsibility

Lord Atkin said it was plain that the Act of Parliament threw on the Council and the Council alone the duty of holding due inquiry. They could not rely on inquiry by another tribunal or on a judgment of guilt by another tribunal. The practitioner was entitled to a judgment which was the result of the considered deliberation of his fellow-practitioners. They must therefore hear him and all relevant witnesses and other evidence he might wish to adduce. It was not disputed that the High Court judgment might afford prima facie evidence, but the very conception of prima facie evidence involved the opportunity of controverting it. He entertained no doubt that the Council were bound, if requested, to hear all the evidence the practitioner brought before them. Lords Macmillan, Wright and Romer concurred.

It is of interest to compare Section 29 of the Medical Act, 1858, with Section 7 (1) of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933:—

Section 29

If any registered medical practitioner shall be convicted in England or Ireland of any felony or misdemeanour, or in Scotland of any crime or offence, or shall after due inquiry be judged by the General Council to have been guilty of infamous conduct in any professional respect, the General Council may, if they think fit, direct the Registrar to erase the name of such medical practitioner from the register.

Section 7 (1)

If a registered pharmacist, or a person employed by him in the carrying on of his business, has been con-victed of any such criminal offence, or been guilty of such misconduct as, in the opinion of the Statutory Committee, renders him, or in the case of an employee, would if he were a registered pharmacist, render him unfit to be on the register, the committee, after making inquiry into the case, may, subject to the provisions of this Act, direct the Registrar to remove the name of the pharmacist from the register.

A pharmacist aggrieved by a direction given by the Statutory Committee or by the refusal by the Committee of an application to give a direction may, under Section 14 of the 1933 Act, appeal to the High Court and the order of the Court is final. In this connexion some important statements were made at the recent Branch Representatives' Meeting. During the discussion on the list of diseases in respect of which advertisements of medicines should not be issued to the public by chemists, Mr. Wilson (a member of the

Pharmaceutical Society's Council) said that breaches of the Statement of Professional Conduct would be reported to the Statutory Committee, and it would be open to that body to take what action it considered appropriate. In reply to a question concerning an appeal to the High Court, Mr. Hugh N. Linstead, M.P. (Registrar of the Society), said: "The High Court would come into the picture only in the event of the Statutory Committee taking some action, and if the Statutory Committee heard what the man had to say, and gave him every opportunity of presenting his case, the High Court was not likely to interfere with the decision of the Statutory Committee." Mr. Linstead's opinion is interesting but it is important that a member of the Society, in the event of being an aggrieved person, should realise that he has a right of appeal to the High Court.

It will be noted that the wordings of the Sections of the Acts quoted above differ somewhat and that the medical case turned on the interpretation of "after due inquiry" in a case of alleged infamous conduct, whereas the Statutory Committee, whether it is a matter of criminal offence or infamous conduct, can only remove a name "after making inquiry." So far as we can recall the Statutory Committee and its proceedings have not been the subject of discussion at branch meetings of the Pharmaceutical Society, but in the light of recent events they might well be. Moreover, with the reverberations that have taken and are likely to take place in pharmacy since the most recent legislation was passed, it is quite possible a new Pharmacy Act will be needed before long, and the opportunity could be taken to clarify any matter about which there may be a doubt. It is no use waiting until a Bill is before Parliament.

### Centenary of a Charter

MENTION of the Royal College of Surgeons in connexion with a Charter Centenary may momentarily cause surprise to those who recall that some months have elapsed since the much younger Pharmaceutical Society commemorated the hundredth anniversary of the granting of its own Charter. Actually

the Surgeons' Charter was not the first in the long history of the College, which dates pack to 1460-61. The reigning monarch at that time, Edward IV, "did, at the supplication of the freemen of the mystery of barbers of the city of London, using the nystery or faculty of Surgery, grant to hem that the said mystery, and all men of the same mystery of the said city, should be one body and perpetual community." Barber-surgeons they remained until 1745, when, by a new Charter, the Royal College of Surgeons became a separate entity; in 800 the privileges of the College were onfirmed, and the name was changed to he Royal College of Surgeons in London.

The main effects of the present Charter, which was granted on September 11, 1843, vere threefold. First, the name was hanged to the Royal College of Surgeons f England; secondly, a class of Fellows vas created, limited at first to between 50 and 300; and finally the method of overnment was changed from a close ligarchy to control by an "aristocracy" onsisting of the Fellows. The change was ery largely engineered by Sir Benjamin ollins Brodie, one of the most eminent urgeons of his day-president of the Royal Society in 1858; first president of the eneral Medical Council; and a pioneer in urgery (he described the first subcutaneous peration on record). Sir Benjamin had een much impressed by the manner in hich government of the Royal Society had een vested in a minority of members who ad achieved eminence, and it was on the nethod of control by the "cream" of its hembership that the new Charter of the Royal College of Surgeons was based. The rinciple still holds. The first Fellows were elected from their records by the existing ouncil. Subsequently a Fellowship has een the reward of passing an examination f exceptional difficulty. A point of interest o pharmacists is that Brodie, after laying he foundation of his immense mastery of he subject of anatomy by attendance at he Hunterian school, Great Windmill treet, London, "learned pharmacy in the hop of Mr. Clifton in Leicester Square, ne of the licentiates of the Apothecaries' ompany." It may be supposed that his nowledge of pharmacy contributed to the

broad and constructive outlook of which he gave evidence in his activities in the whole field of surgery and medicine.

### Lingua Franca

In one respect pharmacists have been for many years at an important advantage over the lay public. They have shared the language of their profession with colleagues in all other civilised countries. True, there have been minor variations of interpreta-Hydrargyri perchloridum in one pharmacopœia may become hydrargyri bichloridum or even hydrargyrum bichloratum in another. Broadly speaking, however, a pharmacist has no difficulty in theory, and but little more in practice, in interpreting the prescriptions of a foreign medical Pharmaceutical Latin is, unlike suggested "international languages" of synthetic composition, a survival and not an innovation. It remains, perhaps, as a last trace of a Roman civilisation that once held sway over the major portion of the European continent. Its retention in the medical and pharmaceutical professions was neither purely utilitarian nor wholly a monopolistic practice intended to mystify the layman, though undoubtedly both these ends have been served, whether intentionally or otherwise.

Appreciating, therefore, the benefits of their own international language, pharmacists would be the last to cavil at the adoption of Basic English-championed by Mr. Churchill—as an international lingua franca, if not strictly an international language. They would not even complain if the motive were partly the benefit of their countrymen while mainly the welfare of the foreigner. They will not be prevented from hoping, however, that, having mastered the 850 words of Basic, foreign pharmacists and prescribers will not decide they can do as well with that as with Latin. "Medical substance in liquid" of "blue-flowered plant from which medical substance is got" may serve well enough for a Frenchman who, having looked up "teinture" and "scille" in a French-Basic English dictionary, finds there the definitions given. As an alternative to Tr. Scillae on a prescription it leaves much to be desired.

### AN INDUSTRIAL HANDICAP THAT CAN BE ME

by C. W. Brett, M.Inst.W.

TRADING nowadays is hedged about with so many limitations that it is almost startling to note how some manufacturers, whilst scrupulously observing both letter and spirit of the law, carry on far more easily than others. Sometimes personality is contributory, but more often the answer lies in the extent to which resources that remain freely available are realised and turned to good account.

No more pertinent example of this can be quoted than the assistance afforded by scientific welding. The help welding offers to those engaged in the drug trade, for example, extends from manufacturing processes to retail trade. In varying degree all sections of the trade are liable to experience trouble, directly or indirectly, from broken, worn or corroded metal parts. Some aspects of the help that can be given in difficulties of this kind have been dealt with previously, but there are other equally useful applications of welding. Often the adoption of this process is so valuable as

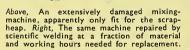
actually to give increased strength to the part, as well as reducing loss of time to negligible proportions.

the value of welding is inestimable. At or time an obstinate trouble was pit mar in the weld metal. In some application this did not matter, but if the breaka involved a bearing surface which needs to be highly finished to a tolerance of on thousandth part of an inch, then i imperfection, however slight, could be tolerated. The cause of the minute flaws the affinity of the molten metal for th oxygen content of the atmosphere, and the cure has proved simple, though a great deal of experimental work was entaile before the obstacle was overcome. Nov adays, in the reconditioning of ste components, air is not allowed to con into contact with the seat of repair whill the work is in progress. Access is denie by enveloping the part in hydrogen suj plied either from a high-pressure cylinde or by the more simple expedient of usir a coated welding rod that gives off th requisite amount of gas when heated in th normal course of the work. The result

an invisible weld high quality and gree strength.

### Retail Applications

The process is used for a variety of needs. Wit the same dependabilit and under the usua guarantee, it is en ployed for rebuilding gear wheels that seen

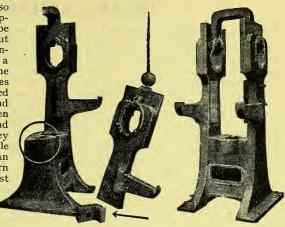


#### Gas or Electric Welding

In passing, it may be noted that gas and electric welding are seldom competitive. Each has its sphere of usefulness, though the line of demar-cation is not rigid. For repair work upon steel the electric processes are mainly used. Re-union of broken crankshafts of transport vehicles and cars is carried out on a large scale. At the present time, with replacements, particularly of this type, so difficult to procure,

at least to the layman, beyond all aid. Eyer when teeth are broken away and lost they can be built up afresh. Moreover, it is no simply in regard to costly components that

ientific welding can be used so fectively. All kinds of shoptings, and the like, can be andled with little cost but ermanent results. The consignent of any damaged part to a rap heap hinders, not helps, the tional effort if it becomes ecessary to replace a discarded em with a new one. To demand new part adds to the burden it upon the nation's labour and aterial resources, for the journey om furnace to finished article complex. So much more can accomplished by modern ethods of welding than most ople suppose, that it is ways best to seek expert lvice, particularly when a b seems hopeless. Such help sts nothing and no repair accepted unless the result certain to be satisfactory d permanent.



Power presses are used for the production of many pharmaceutical preparations, and inaccurate "setting" sometimes results in a breakage like the one illustrated (At left, above). An accident need not irretrievably ruin the machine; within a few days, by scientific welding, the damage is repaired and the press perfectly restored. At right, a repair carried out in the welding works of Barimar, Ltd., London.

#### Factories

Engineers who are responsible for the aintenance of factory plant are more miliar with the resources that modern elding technique offers, but even so the portunity is not fully exploited. Some managements accept handicaps that might be cleared away at once did they but remember that broken, worn or corroded metal can be restored fully by applying the methods briefly outlined.

### AMERICAN MEDICINAL PLANT CULTIVATION

TE United States now co-operates closely th Central and South American and Cariban nations in the development of essential land drug plants. In Mexico alone, eightim-rtant drug plants, hitherto grown at conlerable distances from the United States, e being cultivated. These include bellanna, red squill, senna, peppermint, pyrerum, henbane and stramonium. Mexico expected to continue cultivation of most

these plants permanently.

The importance with which pyrethrum, rexample, is viewed officially in the United ates is indicated by the fact that agriltural stations have been established in -operation with the Mexican Department Agriculture at Valle de Bravo, Jesus trranza, Villa Guerrero, Colima, Morelia, mecameca, Tampico, Guanajuato, Ajijic id Ensenada. Among the more important sential oil plants now being cultivated e petitgrain; citronella; lemongrass; ranium; lavender; vetivert; neroli; smine, cinnamon, cassia and tuberose; se oil; ylang-ylang and bergamot. The wish refugee colony at Sosua on the north shore of Santo Domingo has made extensive plantings of citronella, lemongrass and ylang-ylang. Porto Rico is experimenting in production of citronella grass and is also growing jasmine, gardenia, cassia and mimosa.

In Chile the Corporacion de Fomento provides loans to farmers for the cultivation of medicinal and spice plants and the production of essential oils. Cultivation of peppermint and lavender is not yet enough for home needs, but growers look forward to an exportable surplus. Pine and eucalyptus oils are being exported from Chile, and fennel and bollo oils can be produced in large quantities if there are sufficient markets for them. The following medicinal and spice plants are already produced in Chile in good quantities: Pyrethrum, fenugreek, coriander, white mustard, borage, poppy, saffron, goat's rue, marjoram, sage, rhatany and quillaia. Chile's exports of soapbark, totalling between 2,500 and 3,000 tons, formerly went to Germany. Petitgrain is being produced in Paraguay and northern Argentina.

### RECENT RESEARCH

Assay of Sulphonamide Ointments.—A technique for the estimation of sulphonamide drugs in ointments, in which isopropyl ether is first used to dissolve the base, is described by Conway in the "Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association" (xxxii. 7. 169). Bromination is the basis of the subsequent sulphonamide assay, the author considering this method more convenient than the at present more usual method of diazotisation.

Vitamins and Hair Colour.—Although Brandaleone and other workers ("Journal of the American Medical Association," 122. 13. 875) obtained an "unequivocal change of colour" in the hair of two greyhaired patients to whom, out of a group of nineteen patients, they administered calcium pantothenate and para-aminobenzoic acid, their finding is that "much of the publicity concerning anti-grey-hair factors has left a distorted impression on the public." The most common effect noted was the introduction of a yellow or greenish tinge into the grey hair. Growth of scattered black hair was also found. All the patients were elderly, and all were seen by the same two observers twice a month for purposes of comparative observations. No experiments have yet been carried out on grey hair in youthful patients.

Evaluating Laxative Agents.—Gold and Zahm ("Journal of American Pharmaceutical Association," xxxii, 7, 173) 7, 173) describe a method for the evaluation of laxative agents in constipated human subjects. This is combined with a study of the comparative laxative potency of fumarates, sodium tartrate and magnesium acid citrate. The criterion on which most reliance was placed was the incidence of positive responses to a series of doses. The most precise results were secured in cases in which all the agents were compared in one and the same person. The subjects were ambulant patients who had been in regular attendance at clinics during periods varying from several months to several years. The constipation was functional. Its character was such that a laxative was found necessary at least twice a week. The laxative agent under investigation was taken following the lapse of several hours after the expected daily bowel movement (always twenty-four hours or longer since the last bowel movement). A simple record form was issued. It included the following items: Day of the week, time medicine was taken, time of the bowel movement,

kind of bowel movement (normal, loos hard, watery). The patient filled this ou at the time and returned it during th subsequent visit to the clinic. Five com pounds were studied: Sodium fumarate magnesium fumarate, calcium fumarate tartrate and magnesium sodium They were dispensed in powder containing 10 gm. each. The powder wa taken dissolved in one-half glass of wate followed by one-half glass of water. Th plan of the study involved the assumption that if a patient took a fixed dose of laxative agent for constipation, and re peated the dose as the condition recurred at intervals over a period of three to fou weeks, the incidence of positive response would vary with the potency of the agent.

The authors claim to have accumulated sufficient general evidence to make the basic assumption valid. The examination showed that the laxative efficacies of the fumarates of sodium, calcium and magnesium are equal, and that the three also possess approximately the same laxative potency as sodium tartrate and magnesium acid citrate, gram for gram A 10-gm. dose of any of the compounds produces a bowel movement within ar average of about six hours in about 75 per cent. of the times it is used in patients in need of a laxative. The fumarates are considered to provide satisfactory substitutes for the tartrates as laxative agents, without the potential nephrotoxic hazards of the tartrates.

Sterile Sulphonamide Ointments.—That ointments containing 5 per cent. sulphanilamide, sulphathiazole or sulphadiazine in a water-dispersible base may become contaminated with disease-bearing organisms which the sulphonamide constituent is powerless to kill is the finding of Fisher, Accousti and Thompson in the "Journal of the American Medical Association" (122. 13. 855). The remedy that suggests itself is the addition of small amounts of other chemicals, particularly oxidising agents, which greatly increase the selfsterilising properties of the ointments. Of those studied by the authors, the most practical and effective was found to be urea peroxide, which they suggest should be added in not more than I per cent. concentration. Higher concentrations give rise to objectionable irritant effects. zoyl and zinc peroxides were also tested, the former with partial and the latter with small success.

### TRADE REPORT

pot quotations for pharmaceutical chemicals, crude drugs and essential oils represent ne prices for wholesale quantities of standard quality. C.i.f. quotations do not include parine war risk insurance and other abnormal charges payable in the present emergency

### 28 Essex Street, W.C.2, September 15

HE past week has brought to the London rug and chemical markets a good deal of quiry for commodities now in short suply, but little in the way of actual business; few price changes have occurred, but they e of a minor character. The latest war evelopments have opened up prospects of ceiving supplies of CRUDE DRUGS and SSENTIAL OILS from Southern Italy, and aturally a good deal of interest has been roused in trade circles. A considerable me may elapse before such transactions ecome possible, and it is extremely unlikely at in any event private firms will be able import goods from this source while the resent emergency lasts. It is reasonable to sume, however, that in due course shipents will be forthcoming, probably on overnment account, of items that are onsidered useful for the war effort or to eet legitimate civilian requirements. No evelopments of importance have occurred uring the week in PHARMACEUTICAL CHEM-ALS, in which steady business is being done.

### rude Drugs

Business in this section of the markets is coceeding quietly, practically all the orders ming from home consuming industries. is noteworthy that, of the many inquiries bw being received by dealers, a large proortion concern crude drugs that have been If the market for many months, and which e not likely to be replaced until after the ar. Such inquiries go round the trade with itirely negative results, and dealers are bliged to expend time and energy in roviding replies, without the compensation possible business. Business in Agar is onfined to occasional sales of Kobe No. 1 laterial for bacteriological use. It is diffiult to locate spot supplies of Cape Aloes, ut a few small parcels are understood to be float. Balsam tolu is firmly held at the ther higher price indicated last week. A nall trade is passing in Benzoin, supplies f which are reserved for the manufacture f B.P. preparations. No supplies of Buchu ill be available to meet the demand until ne next quotas are issued. Re-sale prices or small quantities of CAMPHOR imported y the Ministry of Supply have not yet een made known. Inquiries persist for Cascara sagrada, but no supplies of bark can be found to meet the demand. Quiet conditions obtain for Ergot, with really sound material in meagre supply. Spot stocks of IPECACUANHA appear to be practically exhausted. Maximum brokers' and wholesalers' prices have been fixed for natural MENTHOL (details on p. 280). RHUBARB is selling fairly well at last-mentioned prices; supplies, while adequate, cannot, when once exhausted, be made good under present conditions. SEEDs continue neglected, yet no further price reductions have occurred. Considerable inquiry is noted for Stro-PHANTHUS seed. TURMERIC is easier on account of lack of demand.

### Essential Oils

The demand for ESSENTIAL OILS has recently improved, but the difficulty is to locate sufficient supplies of the "free" oils to meet requirements. Consumers would naturally prefer to purchase controlled oils at the much cheaper official rates but, until these are available, they may be obliged to pay the higher prices in order to carry on. The official scheme appears to be proceeding satisfactorily, and it is understood that some allocations are expected to be made in the early future. No changes have been anounced in the prices of Fixed oils and Fats.

### Pharmaceutical Chemicals

ACETANILIDE.—In ample supply at 2s. 5d. per lb. for crystals, and 2s. 6d. for powder.

Allobarbitone.—No change in makers' price at 60s. per lb.

ASPIRIN.—Steady. Makers quote per lb. as follows: 28 lb.—I cwt. (containers in brackets): 4s. (I-lb.); 3s. 10½d. (4-lb.); 3s. 9½d. (7-lb.); 3s. 9d. (14-lb.); 3s. 8½d. (28-lb.). Prices are net one month:

ATROPINE.—Makers' prices per oz. are unchanged: Alkaloid, 1 oz., 35s.; 4 oz., 34s. 6d.; 25 oz., 34s. Sulphate, 1 oz., 28s.; 4 oz., 27s. 6d.; 25 oz., 27s. Methyl bromide and Methyl nitrate, 1 oz., 65s.

Barium sulphate, B.P. (x-ray).—Prices range from is. 2d. to is. 9½d. per lb., according to quantity and container.

BISMUTH CO., PULV., N.F.—Prices per lb., in quantities of 28 lb. to 1 cwt. are as follows (containers in brackets): 25. 3½d. (1-lb.); 2s. 2d. (4-lb.); 2s. Id. (7-lb.); 2s. (28-lb.). Terms net, one month.

BISMUTH SALTS.—Makers' current schedule is as follows:—

Salt	Under 4 lb.	4 lb. and under 8 lb.	8 lb. and under 28 lb.	28 lb. and under r cwt.	Not less than r cwt.
Carbonate Citrate Nitrate cryst. Oxide Salicylate Subchloride Subgallate Subnitrate	s. d. 11 8 14 0 8 0 15 10 12 3 15 6 14 3 10 3	s. d. 11 2 13 6 7 6 15 4 11 9 15 0 13 9	s. d. 10 5 12 9 6 9 14 7 11 0 14 3 13 0	s. d. 9 0 11 0 6 0 12 6 9 6 12 3 11 6 7 10	s. d. 8 9 10 9 5 9 12 3 9 3 12 0 11 3 7 7

Nitrate and oxide are not available for contracts.

Boric acid.—Makers' quotations are as follows: B.P. granulated, £60 15s. per ton; crystal, £61 15s.; powder, £62 15s. Packed in one-cwt. bags, delivered carriage paid in Great Britain, in one-ton lots and upwards. Commercial grades, £8 per ton less.

Bromides.—Potassium is quoted by makers as follows (containers in brackets): 3s. 5\fmathbf{4}d. per lb. (r-lb.); 3s. 2\fmathbf{4}d. (4-lb.); 3s. 2\fmathbf{4}d. (28-lb.). Sodium, \fmathbf{3}d. per lb. extra; Ammonium, 2\fmathbf{4}d. per lb. extra; powder, 2d. per lb. extra.

CITRATES.—Makers' current schedule is as follows:—

	In containers of						
Quantity	r lb.	4 lb.	7 lb.	14 lb.	28 lb.		
Under 4 lb From 4 lb From 7 lb From 14 lb 28 lb. to 1 cwt.	s. d. 3 6½ 3 5½ 3 4½ 3 3½ 3 2½	s. d.  3 4 3 3 3 2 3 1	s. d.  3 2 3 1 3 0	s. d. — — 3 0½ 2 11½	s. d. 		

IRON AND AMMONIUM (SCALES), B.P., is at 3d. per lb. above, and Sodium is at 1d. per lb. below the table prices. All prices are net, packages extra. Sales are conditional on buyer's undertaking not to resell below the values given.

Cocaine.—British makers' current wholesale prices are as follows: Hydrochloride and nitrate, 25 oz. and over, 35s. 8d.; 16 oz. and less than 25 oz., 36s. 1od.; over 8 oz. and less than 16 oz., 38s. per oz. Alkaloid, citrate and salicylate, 25 oz. and over, 39s. 1d.; 16 oz. and less than 25 oz., 40s. 4d.; over 8 oz. and less than 16 oz., 41s. 7d. per oz., 16-oz. packages free, smaller packing extra. The scale of prices applicable to distributors of smaller quantities is as follows: Hydrochloride and nitrate, 8 oz., 40s.; 4 oz. and less than 7 oz., 40s. 7d.; 2 oz. and less than 4 oz., 41s. 6d.; 1 oz. and less than 2 oz., 42s. 7d.; 2 oz. and less than 3 oz., 44s. 2d.; 4 oz. and less than 3 oz., 47s. 3d. per oz. Alkaloid, citrate and salicylate, 8 oz., 43s. 5d.; 4 oz., and less than 8 oz., 44s.; 2 oz., and less than 4 oz., 44s. 11d.; 1 oz. and less than 2 oz., 46s. 2d.; 5 oz. and less

than I oz., 47s. 9d.; ½ oz. and less than ½ oz., 5os. Iod. per oz., packages extra. Re-sale: Sales are subject to buyers' undertaking not to re-sell any quantity below current scale. Export prices vary according to destination.

CODEINE.—Makers' prices per oz. are as follows: Alkaloid.—½ oz., 48s. 3d.; 1 oz., 45s. 9d.; 2 oz., 44s. 3d.; 3 oz., 43s. 6d.; 4 oz., 43s. 3d. Hydrochloride.—½ oz., 42s.; 1 oz., 39s. 6d.; 2 oz., 38s.; 3 oz., 37s. 3d.; 4 oz., 37s. Phosphate.—½ oz., 37s. 9d.; 1 oz., 35s. 3d.; 2 oz., 33s. 9d.; 3 oz., 33s.; 4 oz., 32s. 9d.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Quoted by British makers at 262s. per cwt., less  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. discount.

Dextrose, B.P.—Quoted at the following rates per lb., in quantities of 28 lb. to 1 cwt. (containers in brackets): Is.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. (1-lb.); Is.  $1\frac{1}{4}$ d. (2-lb.); Is.  $3\frac{1}{4}$ d. (2-lb.); Is. $3\frac{1}{4}$ d. (14-lb.);  $3\frac{1}{4}$ d. (28-lb.).

GLYCERIN.—Prices per cwt., for small supplies are as follows: 56-lb. tin, 99s.; 14-lb. tin, 105s.; subject to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. discount, twenty-eight days.

Guaiacóls.—Crystals and Carbonate, unchanged at from 14s. to 15s. per lb.

HOMATROPINE.—Makers' prices per oz. are as follows (prices per gram in brackets): Alkaloid, I oz., 97s. 6d.; 4 oz., 92s. 6d.; 16 oz., 87s. 6d. (4s.). Hydrochloride, hydrobrombe and sulphate, I oz., 75s.; 4 oz., 70s.; 16 oz., 65s. (3s. 2d.).

Iodine Preparations.—Prices per lb. for the home market are as follows: Potassium iodide, B.P.—I12 lb., 9s.; 28 lb., 9s. 6d.; 14 lb., 10s.; 7 lb., 11s. 6d.; 4 lb., 12s.; smaller quantities, 12s. 6d. Sodium iodide, B.P.—28 lb., 9s. 11d.; 14 lb., 10s. 5d.; 7 lb., 12s. 2d.; 4 lb., 12s. 10d.; smaller quantities, 13s. 8d. Iodoform, B.P.—28 lb., 12s. 10d.; 14 lb., 13s. 4d.; 7 lb., 15s. 6d.; 4 lb., 16s. 4d.; smaller quantities, 17s. 2d. Iodoform Crystals.—2s. per lb. above powder prices. Iodine resublimed, B.P.—112 lb., 10s. 4d.; 28 lb., 10s. 10d.; 14 lb., 11s. 4d.; 7 lb., 13s. 1d.; 4 lb., 13s. 9d.; smaller quantities, 17s. 2d. Iodoform Crystals.—2s. per lb. above powder prices. Iodine resublimed, 18, 11s. 4d.; 7 lb., 13s. 1d.; 4 lb., 13s. 9d.; smaller quantities, 14s. 6d.

Magnesium carbonate, heavy.—Makers quote for the home trade the following prices per lb. in quantities of 28 lb.—I cwt. (containers in brackets): Is. 6½d. (I-lb.); Is. 5d. (4-lb.); Is. 3d. (28-lb.). Prices net one month.

Magnesium carbonate, Light.—Home market prices have been adjusted as follows:—

		In	container	s of	
Quantity	ı lb.	4 lb.	7 lb.	14 lb.	28 lb.
I lb. to 4 lb. 4 lb. to 7 lb. 7 lb. to 14 lb. 14 lb. to 28 lb. 28 lb. to I cwt.	s. d. 1 6½ 1 5½ 1 4½ 1 3½ 1 2½	s. d. — I 4 I 3· I 2 I I	s. d. — I 2 I I I O	s. d.    1 0½ 11½	s. 4.

Prices net one month.

Magnesium oxide, light.—Makers' prices rer lb. for the home market, for quantities of 8 lb.-I cwt., are as follows (containers in rackets): 2s. 8d. (I-lb.); 2s. 6½d. (4-lb.); s. 5½d. (7-lb.); 2s. 5d. (I4-lb.); 2s. 4¾d. 28-lb.).

MAGNESIUM SALTS .- Prices of the leading alts were given last week (pp. 252 and 253).

MAGNESIUM TRISILICATE.—Makers quote for he home market, in quantities of 28 lb.-1 cwt., s follows (containers in brackets): 3s. 6½d. per b. (1-lb.); 3s. 5d. (4-lb.); 3s. 4d. (7-lb.); s. 3½d. (14-lb.); 3s. 3d. (28-lb.).

Mandelates.—Quoted as follows: Sodium nd CALCIUM.—4 oz., 8 oz. and 1 lb., 22s. per b.; 4 lb., 20s. 3d.; 7 lb., 18s. 6d.; 14 lb. (in -lb. packages), 16s. 9d.; 28 lb. (in 7-lb. packges), 15s. per lb., net. Ammonium (50 per cont solution)—4 oz. 8 oz. and 1 lb. yez od. ent. solution)-4 oz., 8 oz. and 1 lb., 11s. 9d. er lb.; 4 lb., 10s. 9½d.; 7 lb., 9s. 10d.; 14 lb. in 7-lb. packages), 8s. 11½d.; 28 lb. (in 7-lb. ackages), 7s. 11d. per lb. net. Packages extra nd returnable.

MERCURY 10DIDES. - The following are nakers' prices per lb.; Red, less than 7 lb., os. 8d.; not less than 7 lb., 2os. 2d.; not less han 14 lb., 19s. 8d. Green, less than 7 lb., 8s. 8d.; not less than 7 lb., 26s. 2d.; not less han 14 lb., 25s. 8d. Yellow, less than 7 lb., 8s. 1d.; not less than 7 lb., 27s. 7d.; not less han 14 lb., 27s. 1d. net, carriage paid.

OPIUM ALKALOIDS.—Current prices are:—

	1/2	oz.	10	z.	20	oz,	3 0	oz.	4 0	oz.
odeine	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.,	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Alkaloid Hydro-	48	'3	45	9	44	3	43	6	43	3
chloride Phosphate	42 37	o 9	39 35	6	38 33	o 9	37 33	3 0	37 32	o 9
lorphine Alkaloid Hydro-	53	o	50	6	49	o	48	3	48	o
chloride iamorphine	43	9	41	3	39	9	39	о.	38	9
Alkaloid Hydro-	54	0	51	6	50	Ö	49	3	49	0
chloride thylmor-	49	O	46	6	45		44	3	44	0
phine Alkaloid Hydro-	51	o	48	6	47	o	46	3	46	o
chloride	43	o	40	6	39	o	38	3	38	o

SALICYLIC ACID.—A price schedule recently sued gave slightly increased prices for the small izes:-

Quantity	In containers of						
	ı lb.	4 lb.	7 lb.	28 lb.			
1-4 lb	s. d. 2 10 2 9 2 8 2 7 2 6	$ \begin{array}{c cccc} s. & d. \\ 2 & 7\frac{1}{2} \\ 2 & 6\frac{1}{2} \\ 2 & 5\frac{1}{2} \\ 2 & 4\frac{1}{2} \end{array} $	s. d. 2 5½ 2 4½ 2 3½	s. d. - - 2 4 2 3	s. d. - - - 2 2½		

Prices net one month.

PHENOLPHTHALEIN.—Makers quote as follows: Less than 7 lb., 4s. 6d. per lb.; 7 lb., 4s. 5d.; 14 lb., 4s. 4d.; 28 lb., 4s. 3d.; 1 cwt., 4s. 2d.

Potassium permanganate.—B.P. steady at makers' quotation of 1s. 10d. per lb.

Santonin.—Home-trade prices, details of which were given last week (p. 275), are unchanged.

Sodium benzoate.—Available at from 2s. 9d. to 3s. per lb., according to quantity.

Sodium salicylate.—Makers' slightly adjusted price schedule is as follows:-

Quantity		In containers of									
, admirity	,		ı lb.		lb.	7	lb.	14	lb.	28	lb.
1-4 lb 4-7 lb 7-14 lb 14-28 lb 28 lb1 cwt.		s. 3 3 3 2	d. 3½ 2½ 1½ 0½ 11½	3 3 2	d. I O II IO	2	d.  11 10 9	S	d. - - 9½ 8½	s. - - 2	d. - - - 8

Prices net one month.

STRYCHNINE SALTS.—Makers' prices are as follows:--

Compound   Under   25 oz.   under   100 oz.				
Alkaloid, crystalline	Compound		and under	
Nitrate, powder, No. 2 3 II 3 9 3 7 Phosphate 5 II 5 9 5 7 Sulphate, neutral, cryst 4 3 4 I 3 II	Alkaloid, precipitated Acetate Arsenate Arsenate Bisulphate Hydrochloride Hypophosphite Nitrate, crystalline Nitrate, powder. Nitrate, powder. Sulphate, neutral, cryst. Sulphate, neutral, powder Sulphate, neutral, powder	4 II 4 II 5 2 5 2 5 2 4 II 4 8 8 5 4 8 4 8 3 II 5 II 4 3 4 3	4 9 4 9 5 0 5 0 3 11, 4 6 8 3 4 6 4 6 3 9 4 1	4 7 1 4 10 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

25-oz. containers and outer cases free; smaller packages extra. Contracts may be booked for quantities of 100 oz. and over, with rise-and-fall clause, for a period of six months. Terms, net thirty days. Wholesale distributors' prices for small quantities would be dearer.

SULPHANILAMIDE.—Price ranges from 10s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per lb., according to quantity.

Tannic acid.—Current prices range between 9s. and 10s. per lb.

TARTARIC ACID.—B.P. crystal is quoted by makers at 3s. 11d. per lb., less 5 per cent. dis-

Terpineol.—For medicinal use only at 3s. 6d. to 4s. per lb.

Vanillin.—Material made from clove oil or guaiacol is quoted at from 22s. 6d. to 23s. 3d. per lb., according to quantity.

### Crude Drugs

AGAR.—Kobe No. 1 may be obtained for bacteriological purposes by approved users at 65s. to 7os. per lb., but practically no business is passing.

ALOES.—Cape continues in good demand, but no offers can be obtained from source; any available spot supplies would be worth 82s. 6d. per cwt. Curaçao, 48os. per cwt.

Antimony.—Supplies are reserved for essential requirements. English minimum 99 per cent. regulus is unchanged at £120 per ton, delivered; 70 per cent., for the home trade, £100 per ton, delivered.

Balsams.—*Tolu* continues firm but unchanged at the slightly higher price of 14s. per lb. quoted last week. *Canada* is steady at 10s. 3d., and *Peru* at 8s. 6d. *Copaiba* is not offered.

Belladonna.—Spot quotations for Indian leaf show no change at 5s. to 5s. 6d. per lb. Indian root is steady at 4s. to 4s. 6d. per lb. Prices vary according to alkaloidal yield.

Benzoin.—A few odd cases are being sold. Fair-quality Sumatra block is worth £22 ros. to £25 per cwt., and free "almonds," £32. Supplies are reserved for the manufacture of B.P. preparations.

Buchu.—In good request, but no supplies of either ovals or rounds are available at present.

Camphor.—Supplies of both synthetic and natural imported by the Ministry of Supply are available for distribution to approved users. Re-sale prices for quantities under 7 lb. are awaited.

Cardamoms.—Quiet conditions persist; prices steady. Aleppy seed, spot, 6s. 6d. per lb.; Aleppy greens, 5s. 6d.; split seed, 5s. 6d.; Ceylon greens, 5s. 9d.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Inquiries are still being received but no supplies are available at present.

CHILLIES.—Mombasa is the only variety offered on spot. Price steady at 120s. per cwt.

CLOVES.—Zanzibar, spot, quoted at is.  $5\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.; second quality, for shipment, rod. per lb.; sellers, c.i.f.

COCOA BUTTER.—Maximum official price remains at 1s. 5½d. per lb., ex factory or warehouse, except for sales made under Ministry of Food licence.

COCONUT (DESICCATED).—Maximum official price is unchanged at 49s. per cwt.

DIGITALIS LEAF.—Portuguese leaf may be obtained on spot at 135s. per cwt.; Englishgrown leaf, steady at 2s. 6d. per lb.

Dragon's blood.—Dull Zanzibar drop, spot, £21 per cwt.; no other varieties available.

ELEMI.—Small supplies of No. 1 gum are quoted on spot at 340s, per cwt.

ERGOT.—Little business passing. Sound material, if available on spot, would be worth 5s. 6d. per lb., and wormy, 5s.

GALANGAL ROOT.—Quoted at 100s. per cwt., in bond Liverpool.

GUM ACACIA.—There is no change in the spo price of Kordofan cleaned sorts at 95s. per cwt. bleached, 140s., c.i.f.; Talha, cleaned, 55s. pe cwt., landed terms.

Henbane leaves.—Indian leaves would be worth from 250s. to 350s. per cwt., according to test. Russian leaves may be obtained be approved buyers at 3s. 6d. per lb.

IPECACUANHA.—Nothing much to be had o spot and quotations are unchanged. Currer prices of Ext. IPECAC. LIQ. are as follows:—Wir chesters, B.P., 1932, under three, 30s. 6d. pe lb.; three and under six, 30s.; six and under twelve, 29s. 6d.; twelve and over, 29s. B.P 1914, under three, 28s. 6d.; three and under six, 28s.; six and under twelve, 27s. 6d. twelve and over, 27s. per lb.; all prices quote are on a net basis.

JALAP.—Spot price of Brazilian root, testin 16 per cent., steady at 105s. per cwt.

KAMALA.—No change from 1s. 9d. per lb. fo material testing about 5 per cent. ash.

LIQUORICE ROOT.—Russian root, to approve buyers for pharmaceutical purposes, 75s. pe cwt.; cut Russian root, for non-pharmaceutics purposes, 96s. 6d.

MENTHOL.—Fair spot business is reported done at 115s, per lb. An Order fixing price for natural has been issued (see p. 28o).

Mercury.—Official spot quotations rang from f(8) 10s. to f(6) 15s. per flask, according to conditions and quantity, with higher rate for smaller lots and redistilled grades.

MYRRH.—Good-quality Aden sorts may b had on spot at £20 per cwt., pickings at £10.

Nutmegs.—West Indian, spot, wormy and broken, 1s. 6d. per lb.; sound unassorted 1s. 9d. Under the Spices (Control) Order, 1943 quarterly returns are required of stocks o 20 cwt. or more, the first return to be made o stocks as on June 30, 1943. Such stocks canno be processed or disposed of, except unde licence. (See C. & D., September 11, p. 257.)

Nux vomica.—Prices and supply position are unchanged. Cochin, washed and garbled spot, 42s. 6d. per cwt.; Cocanada, spot, 37s. 6d. shipment, Cocanada, 32s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

Orange Peel.—Bitter quarters are no obtainable, but some good thin-cut may be had on spot at 4s. 6d. per lb.

PIMENTO.—Spot quoted at is. 9d. per lb. sellers.

PODOPHYLLUM.—Spot, untested, 95s. per cwt.; shipment, 72s. 6d., c.i.f.

Quillaia Bark.—Crushed or cut bark, spot 100s. per cwt.; natural, afloat, 75s., c.i.f.

Rhubarb.—Fairly good demand, but prices are without quotable change. Rough-round spot, 8s. per lb.; flat high-dried, rough-coat 8s. to 8s. 3d.; slightly wormy, 8s.; Shensi pickings, 10s.

SAPONIN.—Steady at 7s. 6d. per lb., ex store SEEDS.—Continue neglected, but no further price reductions are notified. Coriander.— dian, 90s. per cwt. Cumin.—Maltese, spot, 0s.; Indian, 112s. 6d. Dill.—160s., ex larf Glasgow; 170s. ex wharf London. ay be had at 8os. Mustard.—Controlled ices unchanged.

SENNA.—Medium Alexandrian pods may be d at from 3s. 9d. to 4s. per lb.; hand-picked nnevelly pods are at 11d. to 1s. 5d., ordinary ade at 10d. to 11d., and manufacturing grade 6d. to 7½d. 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. would be wanted r broken Alexandrian leaves; Tinnevelly aves are quoted as follows: No. 1, 9d. to 10d.; o. 2, 7d. to  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d.; No. 3,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 6d.

SQUILL.—Portuguese, spot, 8os. per cwt.;

dian, 72s. 6d.

STROPHANTHUS.—About 10s. 6d. per lb. ould be wanted for small parcels of 100 per nt. Kombé seed. Rather more inquiry has en received

Tragacanth.—Firm, but without price ange. Medium grades are quoted as follows: 0. 1, white, £130 per cwt.; No. 2, white, £115; 0. 3, white, £102; No. 4, white, £83; pale af, £73; amber leaf, £65; dark amber, £45; own leaf, £35; red-and-brown leaf, £32; d leaf, from £30; hoggy, light, from £17; body and dark, £12.

TURMERIC.—Inquiry extremely slow. Madras ger, sound-quality, spot, easier at 57s. 6d. r cwt.; wormy, half-a-crown less.

VALERIAN ROOT.—Spot supplies of Indian ay be had from dealers at 95s. per cwt., ex ore.

WAXES .- BEES' .- Obtainable only through e Association of Merchant Distributors of eswax. CARNAUBA.—Quiet and without otable change. Fatty grey and chalky grey, ot, 425s.; Primeira, 530s. per cwt.

### Essential and Expressed Oils

ANISE (STAR).-In good inquiry, but stocks e difficult to find. Any small available pplies would be worth 75s. per lb.

BAY.—Spot supplies are scarce; any availle oil would be worth about 12s. 6d. per lb.

Bois de Rose.—About 47s. per lb. would present the present spot price of any available pplies.

CAJUPUT.—Small spot supplies are quoted about 15s. per lb.

CHAULMOOGRA.—Hydnocarpus oil, 1s. 3d. per

, in large drums, in bond Liverpool. CINNAMON.—Leaf oil would be worth about s. 6d. per lb.

CITRONELLA.—Spot price of Java remains ound 25s. per lb.; Ceylon, about 21s. 6d.

CLOVE.—As noted last week (p. 277), English stillers have reduced their prices by 2s. per lb., aking the new rate 11s. 6d. to 12s. per lb. for P. oil, according to quantity.

Coconut.—Bulk supplies of refined deodord are officially quoted at £49 per ton, and ined hardened deodorised at £53, both naked

works.

COTTONSEED.—Bulk supplies are officially priced as follows: Refined edible, £57 per ton; refined deodorised, £58 per ton; both naked ex works.

CROTON.—Quoted at 9s. 6d. per lb.

GROUNDNUT.—Controlled prices for bulk supplies are as follows: refined deodorised, £58 per ton; refined hardened deodorised, to 40° £62; refined hardened deodorised, to 50° to 52°, £62; all naked ex works.

EUCALYPTUS.—About 7s. per lb. would be the value of small quantities of oil containing 70 to 75 per cent. cineole.

GERANIUM.—Genuine North African oil may be had at from 85s. to 90s. per lb.

GINGER.—English-distilled oil is offered at approximately gos. per lb.

GINGERGRASS.—In small supply at about 22s. 6d. per lb.

Lemongrass.—Dealers would require about 15s. to 16s. per lb.

NUTMEG.—Oil from West Indian nutmegs may be obtained at around 42s. per lb.

Palm.—Official price of refined deodorised remains at £55 per ton and that of refined hardened deodorised at £58 per ton, both naked ex works.

PALM KERNEL.—Bulk supplies are officially priced as follows: refined deodorised, £49 per ton; hardened refined deodorised, £53 per ton, both naked ex works.

Patchouli.—Any remaining spot supplies of good-quality oil would be worth about 75s.

Pennyroyal.—From 40s. to 45s. per lb. would be wanted for spot oil, if available.

Peppermint.—Good demand continues, but available supplies are extremely low; price, if available, would be in the region of 110s. to 115s. per lb.

Petitgrain.—In poor supply; price approximately 25s. per lb.

Rapeseed.—Bulk supplies of refined are unchanged at £60 per ton, naked ex works.

ROSEMARY.-If available on spot, price would be in the region of 16s. per lb.

THYME.—Supplies of high-grade oils are difficult to find; price, if available, about 25s. per lb.

VETIVERT.—Spot oil is priced at around 95s. per lb.

Controlled Essential Oils.—The following are the controlled prices per lb. for essential oils imported under the essential oils scheme (for details, see C. & D., September 4, p. 255): Lease-Lend Oils (American): Lemon, cold pressed, 18s. 10½d.; lemon, distilled, 14s. 4d.; peppermint, 36s. 4d.; grapefruit, 18s. 2d.; sassafras, 11s. 1½d.; caraway, 20s. 4½d.; wormseed, 18s. (plus purchase, 14s); cedarwood. seed, 15s. (plus purchase tax); cedarwood, 3s. 1d.; nutmeg, 23s. 3d. Oils from Empire Sources (maximum prices): Clove, Zanzibar, 5s. 6d.; citronella, 5s.; lime, 46s. 3d.; lemongrass, 5s. 6d,

### MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES

Preserving Duck Eggs.—L. M. E.—While it is not impossible to preserve duck eggs by the same method as with hen eggs, the results are not satisfactory. The shells are much more porous than those of hen eggs. Moreover, ducks are gross feeders, and no guarantee can be given, whatever method is tried, that success will be achieved. If you put down, say, 100 duck eggs you might be fortunate enough to preserve twenty-five for a limited period.

Strength of Hair Bleach.—C. C. S.—It is quite usual to use ten-volume solution of hydrogen peroxide by itself. After washing and drying the hair the solution is applied with a sponge and the degree of bleach resulting depends on the quantity of solution used. Addition of not more than I in 20 strong solution of ammonia makes the hair more amenable to the bleaching treatment.

Gut Reviver.—R. P.—A United States patent was taken out for a process of coating tennis-racquet strings that is stated to produce a result more closely resembling sheep gut in texture, resilience and tenacity than compounds of shellac or varnish. Briefly the method consists of adding a colloid-hardening bichromate solution (e.g. sodium, potassium or ammonium) to a mixture of starch and gum acacia. The starch solution is prepared by boiling  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. starch with 16 oz. water. The product is added to an equal quantity of gum acacia solution of strength  $6\frac{3}{4}$  oz. gum to 16 oz. water before adding bichromate solution, I to 4 per cent., in corresponding amount.

Parinarium Oils.—A. A.—Oils are derived from three species of Parinarium, namely P. laurinum, P. macrophyllum and P. sherbroense. The first two originate in the Pacific Isles. The third, which yields an oil more usually called "Po-yoak" oil, is indigenous to Sierra Leone. Import figures are not at present being published, and the only information you could obtain would be through the Oils and Fats Division, Ministry of Food, Rothesay.

Mustard as Condiment.—E. O'G.—The mustard preferred for use as a condiment is that known as "double" mustard—a mixture of black and white seeds finely ground. The black seed provides the aroma and the white gives pungency. The seeds are ground and the resulting flour is sifted to make the preparation of commerce, but mixtures of ground mustard seed mixed with corn flour, turmeric, etc., are sold

under such names as "mustard condiment' or "mixed mustard."

Vitamin A in Gastric Disorders.— A.H. B.—We cannot call to mind references in the literature to any clinical cases in which vitamin A was used for the treatment of gastric troubles in human beings. There is no doubt that vitamin A exercises a non-specific function upon the fat and carbohydrate metabolism, and in conditions where the vitamin is lacking it is quite possible that gastro-intestinal disorders may occur. It seems unlikely, however that the exhibition of vitamin A would have any but a general effect on the majority of gastric lesions.

Removing a Marking-ink Stain.—R. P. L.—If the marking ink was one containing an aniline dye it will be found difficult to remove, since the stain is liable to spread and instead of dispersing completely merely becomes discoloured. The following procedures have been suggested and may it some cases yield the desired result:—

1. Treat the stain with pure aniline.

2. Apply to the stain a solution of benzir soap in chloroform. This is prepared by dissolving coconut oil soap and a small amount of solution of potassium hydroxide in benzin.

Transfer Wax.—F. M. C.—The composition of transfer wax is:—

Retainer wax is.—

Beeswax . . . . 3 parts
Tallow . . . 3 parts
Canada balsam . . 1 part
Olive oil . . . . 1 part

If the wax is too hard at the time of use add a few drops of olive oil; if too soft a little more beeswax.

Supplying a Dusting Powder.—P. B.—Whether a medicated dusting powder is affected by controls depends on whether it is regarded by the authorities as a medical or a toilet product. If the latter supply is subject to the Toilet Preparations Order and the registered manufacturer is able to supply only up to a quota figure though a special ex-quota concession is allowed for baby dusting powder if made to a specified formula and supplied to certain named classes of consumer.

CLOSED ON SATURDAYS.—Advertisers and subscribers are reminded that owing to war conditions the Head Office of The Chemist and Druggist, 28 Essex Street, London, W.C.2, is closed on Saturdays until further notice. Urgent instructions relating to advertising and subscriptions should be sent to the C. & D., 17 Argyle Street, Bath, Somerset.

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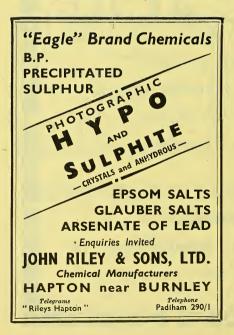
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### ROCHE NEWS IN BRIEF

### e Chief B, Factors

their introduction, 'Benerva' Comnd Tablets have become increasingly cribed, the three chief B<sub>1</sub> factors being ent in each tablet in adequate but not ssive doses. The medical profession is icularly interested in their use in the tment of elderly patients in whom certain tological senile features are strikingly roved. Good reports have been received the effectiveness of 'Benerva' Compound nany skin diseases. 'Benerva' Compound dets are in ample supply.

### oplies of 'Nestrovite'

regret to say that the quota of 'Nestro'Tablets for the current period has been ost entirely exhausted. 'Nestrovite' ulsion, however, will shortly become lable again, and so far as is possible plies will be equitably distributed so long ocks last.

### ostigmin' and Pregnancy

medical profession has been provided Prostigmin' with a synthetic substance any uses. One of the most interesting is n easy and relatively dependable test in diagnosis of pregnancy. 'Prostigmin,' ch is related to physostigmine, but is out its undesirable properties, has been easingly shown to be effective in cases re there is no endocrine dysfunction. vincing evidence has been published in terous American medical journals, the t and perhaps most comprehensive paper appeared recently in the J.A.M.A. It rts on 57 cases studied at the Women's pital in New York. In his conclusion the or states: "This combined method for treatment of delayed menstruation and st for early pregnancy seems of practical

value and a perfectly safe procedure to use, no ill effects on the pregnant or the non-pregnant woman having been observed." Despite the safety of the test 'Prostigmin' should, of course, be strictly reserved for use by medical practitioners and should be located as a Schedule I Poison.

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G. S. MCINTIRE. Town Hall. Town Clerk. Sunderland. 3rd September, 1943.

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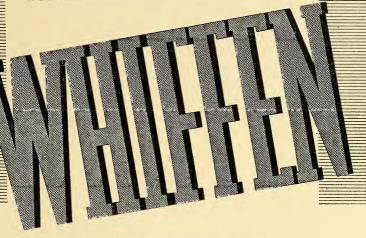
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